Remarks

The Office Action mailed October 30, 2007 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 8, 10-15, 17-22, 24-28 are now pending in this application. Claims 9, 16, and 23 have been cancelled. Claims 1-7 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 8, 13, 15, 20, 22-28 stand rejected. Claims 9-12, 14, 16-19, 21, 23-26, and 28 are objected to.

The objection to the specification is respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended paragraph [0037] of the specification to address the issues raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement is respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended paragraph [0027] of the specification to address the issues raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 112 rejection of Claims 22-28 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for being directed toward non-statutory subject matter is respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended paragraph [0027] of the specification to address the issues raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 101 rejection of Claims 22-28 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 8, 15, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0128892 to Avinash (hereinafter referred to as "Avinash") is respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 9 has been cancelled and Claim 8 has been amended to include all of the limitations of former Claim 9. Accordingly, Claim 8 is submitted to be patentable over the cited art.

Claim 16 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 16 has been cancelled and Claim 15 has been amended to include all of the limitations of former Claim 16. Accordingly, Claim 15 is submitted to be patentable over the cited art.

Claim 23 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 23 has been cancelled and Claim 22 has been amended to include all of the limitations of former Claim 23. Accordingly, Claim 22 is submitted to be patentable over the cited art.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 8, 15, and 22 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 13, 20, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Avinash in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0076988 to Liang (hereinafter referred to as "Liang") is respectfully traversed.

Claim 13 depends from Claim 8, which is submitted to be patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of Claim 13 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants submit that Claim 13 likewise is patentable over the cited art.

Claim 20 depends from Claim 15, which is submitted to be patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of Claim 20 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants submit that Claim 20 likewise is patentable over the cited art.

Claim 27 depends from Claim 22, which is submitted to be patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of Claim 27 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 22, Applicants submit that Claim 27 likewise is patentable over the cited art.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 13, 20, and 27 be withdrawn.

The objection to Claims 9-12, 14, 16-19, 21, 23-26, and 28 is respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 has been cancelled. Claims 10-12 and 14 depend from Claim 8, which is submitted to be patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of Claims 10-12 and 14

PATENT 130399

are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants submit that Claims 10-12 and 14 likewise are patentable over the cited art.

Claim 16 has been cancelled. Claims 17-19 and 21 depend from Claim 15, which is submitted to be patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of Claims 17-19 and 21 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants submit that Claims 17-19 and 21 likewise are patentable over the cited art.

Claim 23 has been cancelled. Claims 24-26 and 28 depend from Claim 22, which is submitted to be patentable over the cited art. When the recitations of Claims 24-26 and 28 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 22, Applicants submit that Claims 24-26 and 28 likewise are patentable over the cited art.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claims 9-12, 14, 16-19, 21, 23-26, and 28 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J.A. Leinauer Registration No. 55,795

ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP

One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600

St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740

(314) 621-5070